The Humble

PETITION

OF

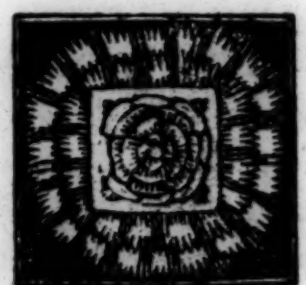
The LORDS and COMMONS

To the King.

For leave to remove the Magazine at *Hull* to the Tower of *London*:

And also to take off the Reprieve of the six condemned Priests now in *Newgate*.

Together with His MAIESTIES Answer thereunto.



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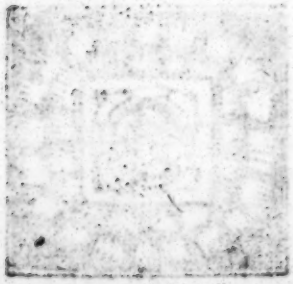

LONDON,
Printed for *John Wright*. 1642.

To the Kings most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Petition of the Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament.

Most gracious Soveraigne,

Our most dutifull and loyall Subjects, the Lords and Commons in Parliament assembled, finding the stores of Armes and Ammunition in the Tower of *London* much diminished; and that the necessity of supplies for your Majesties Kingdome of *Ireland* (for which they have beene issued from thence) daily increaseth: And that the occasion for which the Magazine was placed at *Hull* is now taken away; And considering it will be kept here with lesse charge and more safety, and transported hence with much more convenience for the service of the Kingdome of *Ireland*;

They therefore humbly pray, That Your Majesty will be graciously pleased to give leave that the said Armes, Cannon and Ammunition, now in Magazine at *Hull*, may be removed to the Tower of *London*, according as shall be directed by both your Houses of Parliament.

And whereas six Priests now in New-gate, are condemned to dye, and by Your *Majesty* have been Reprieved;

They humbly pray Your *Majesty* to be pleased that the said Reprieve may be taken off, and the said Priests executed, according to Law.

His Maieſties Anſwer

To the foregoing Petition of the Lords and Commons in Parliament.

WE rather expected (and have done ſo long) that you ſhould have given Us an account why a Garriſon hath been placed in our Town of Hull without Our conſent, & Souldiers Billeted there, againſt Law, and expreſſe words of the Petition of Right; Then to be moved (for the avoiding of a needleſſe charge you have put on your ſelves) to give Our conſent, for the removall of Our Magazine & Ammition (Our own proper Goods) upon ſuch generall reaſons, as indeed give no ſatisfaction to Our judgement. And ſince yee have made the buſineſſe of Hull your Argument, wee would gladly be informed, why Our owne inclination (on the generall rumour of the deſignes of Papiſts in the Northern parts) was not thought ſufficient ground for Us to put a perſon of Honour, Fortune, and unblemiſhed Reputation, into a Towne and Fort of Our owne, where Our own Maga-

Magazine lay; And yet the same rumour be a Warrant enough for you, to commit the same Towne and Fort (without Our consent) to the hands of Sir John Hotham, with a power unagreeable to the Law of the Land or the liberty of the Subject: And yet of this in point of Right or Priviledge, (for sure we are not without Priviledge to) we have not all this while complained; And being confident that that place (whatsoever discourse there is of publick or private Instructions to the contrary) shall be speedily given up, if we shall require it; We shall be contented to dispose Our Munition there (as we have done in other places) for the publick ease and benefit, as upon particular advice We shall finde convenient: Though we cannot thinke it fit, or consent that the whole Magazine be removed together: But when you shall agree upon such proportions as shall be held necessary for any particular service, We shall signe such Warrants as shall bee agreeable to wisdome, and Reason: And if any of them be designed for Ulster or Leinster, you know well the conveyance will bee more easie and convenient from the place they now are in. Yet we must tell you, That if the Feares are so great from the Papists at home, or of Forreigne Force, (as is pretended) it seems strange that you make not provision of Armes and Munition for defence of this Kingdome, rather then to strive to carry any more from hence, without some course taken for supply, especially if you remember your engagement to Our Scots Subjects, for that proportion of Armes, which is contained in your Treaty. We speake not this, as not

thinking the sending of Arms to Ireland, very necessary, but only for the way of the Provision. For you know what great quantities we have assigned out of Our severall Stores, which in due time, we hope, you will see replenished. For the charge of looking to the Magazine at Hull, as it was undertaken voluntarily by you at first, and (to say no more) unnecessarily; so you may free Our good People of that charge, and leave it to Us to looke to, who are the proper owner of it.

And this, we hope, will give you full satisfaction in this point, and that ye doe not (as yee have done in the businesse of the Militia) send this Message out of complement all Ceremony, resolving to be your owne Carvers at last. For we must tell you, If any attempt, or direction shall bee made or given in this Matter, without Our consent or approbation, wee shall esteeme it as an Act of violence against Us, and declare it to all the world, as the greatest violation of Our Right, and breach of Our Priviledge.

Concerning the six Priests condemned: It is true, they were Reprieved by Our warrant, being informed that they were (by some restraint) disabled to take the benefit of Our former Proclamation: since that, wee have issued out another for the due execution of the Lawes against Papists, and have most solemnly promised, in the word of a King, never to pardon any Priest (without your consent) which shall be found guilty by Law; desiring to Banish these, having herewith sent warraut to that purpose, if upon second thoughts yee doe not disapprove thereof: But if you think the

Execution

Execution of these Persons so very necessary to the great and Pious work of Reformation, we refer it Wholly to you; declaring hereby, that upon such your Resolution signified to the Ministers of Justice Our warrant for their Reprive is determined, and the Law to have the course.

And now let Us ask you (for wee are willing to husband time, and to dispatch as much as may be, under one Message: God knowes the Distractions of this Kingdome want a present Remedy) will there never bee a time to offer to, as well as to aske of Us? Wee will propose no more particulars to you, having no lucke to please or to be understood by you. Take your owne time for what concernes Our particular: But bee sure yee have an early, speedy care of the Publike, that is, of the onely Rule which preserves the Publike, The Law of the Land: Preserve the Dignity, and Reverence due to that. It was well said in a Speech made by a private Person, but published by Order of the House of Commons this Parliament: The Law is that which puts a difference betwixt good and evill; betwixt Just and Unjust: If you take away the Law, all things will fall into a Confusion, every man will become a law unto himselfe, which in the depraved condition of humane nature must needs produce many great enormities: Lust wil become a Law, & Envie will become a Law, Covetousnesse and Ambition will become Laws, & what Dictates, what Decisions such Laws will produce, may easily be discerned. So said that Gentlman, and much more very well in defence of the Law, and against Arbitrary Power. It is worth looking

It was part of *Pims* Speech against the Earle of *Strafford*

over

ober and conſidering. And if the moſt zealous Defence of true Proteſtant Profeſſion, and the moſt Reſolved Protecting of the Law, be the moſt neceſſary Duty of a Prince, we cannot belæve this miſerable Diſtance, and Miſunderſtanding can bee long continued betweene Vs, wee having often and earneſtly Declared them to be the chiefeſt Deſires of Our Soul, and the End, And Rule of all Our Actions.

For Ireland, we have ſufficiently, and we hope ſatisfactorily expreſſed to all Our good Subjects, Our hearty ſenſe of their ſad Buſineſſe, in Our ſeverall Meſſages in that Argument; But eſpecially in Our laſt of the eighth of this Moneth, concerning Our Reſolution for that Service: For the ſpeedy, honourable, and full Performance whereof, wee conjure you to yéeld all poſſible Aſſiſtance, and preſent Advice.

FINIS.